

RABIES ALERT Burkittsville

Sept. 5, 2019

**A raccoon found between
301 and 303 East Main
Street has tested positive
for rabies.**

**If you have an indoor/
outdoor pet, they need to
get rabies booster shots.**

FREDERICK, MD -- The Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) announces the date for their fall 2019 Animal Rabies Vaccination Clinic:

- Thursday, September 12th at Thurmont Community Park from 5 to 8 p.m.

All clinics will be held rain or shine on a walk-in basis. Each vaccination is \$8.00 and payable by cash or check only (no debit or credit cards). All dogs, cats, and ferrets are welcome and for their safety must be contained, leashed, or in a carrier. For additional information about the clinic call 301-600-1717.

To date this year Frederick County has had 19 laboratory-confirmed rabid animals consisting of 12 raccoons, 2 skunks, 1 bat, 1 cat, 1 ferret, 1 fox, and 1 groundhog. Compared to other counties Frederick County has the second highest number of confirmed animal rabies cases in the state.

Rabies has a nearly 100% mortality rate once symptoms present. However, rabies fatality is preventable in humans through avoidance of unvaccinated animals or, if exposed, early administration of rabies post-exposure prophylaxis. In pets, rabies is preventable by vaccination or by preventing their exposure to unknown or unvaccinated animals. Since it is not always possible to limit your pet's interactions with unvaccinated wild or stray animals, it is crucial to get pets vaccinated against this deadly disease. According to FCHD Environmental Health Services Director Barry Glotfelty, "The cornerstone of rabies prevention and control is rabies vaccination of domestic animals."

If you are bitten by a domestic pet, make sure to obtain contact information from the pet's owner so that the animal's health can be verified. For additional information about rabies, please contact 301-600-1717.